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# #6.
# max. (Maximum)

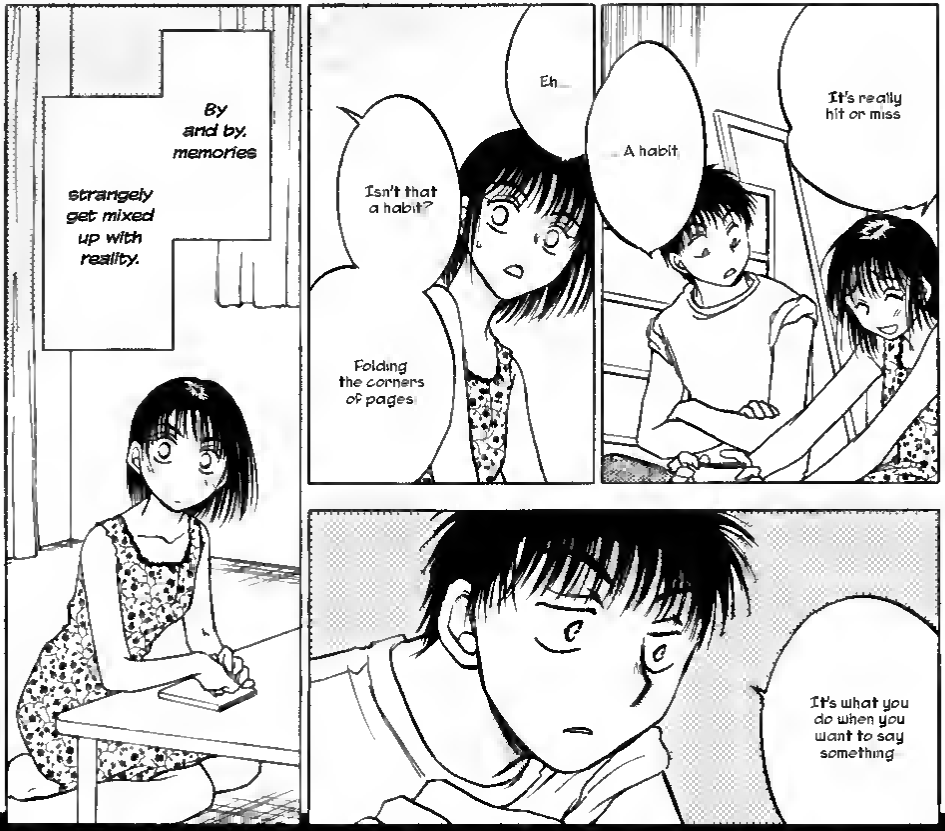
If you don't do anything but "that"
you might stay short.
Which "that"
was she talking about?
...So...

I'm talking about this.
SFX: GABA - GRAB
This...
UA!!
OW...

...?
ズキン
ズキーン
ズキーン
SEX ZUKIN - THROB

Ah...
What a laugh. .
After I stopped doing "that"
Really.
I started growing.
what they call growing pains.
So this is...
Let's break up
That thunderbolt from on high
truly
cut off all contact.
I won't see you again
or talk to you on the phone

No feelings poured forth.
I just remembered.
Thinking of nothing
I just
replayed the memories.
It's not
that I prefer any particular part
So I read wherever


By and by, memories
strangely get mixed up with reality.
Eh...
Isn't that a habit?
Folding the corners of pages
A habit
It's really hit or miss
It's what you do when you want to say something

Is that so?
Really?
Truly?
If you don't tell me, I won't understand.
But!
Why don't you just say it?
Aren't there things you can't say?

What if I say, "Tell me?"?
If I order you?
do

I want you to
kiss...
Hey!!
Hey!
Are you listening?
SFX HA - GASP
SFX DAN - SMACK

.. I wasn't paying attention
Ah..
Continue!
Read..
Um..
You've become a topic of conversation among the teachers
You're quite a problem
Something ?
Nothing
What is it?
Did something happen?
PREP ROOM
These days
nothing matters.
Who cares..
How so?

It's because you're naturally smart
That's because I have nothing to do other than study
Even though you've brought up your grades...
Not like that...
smart, aren't you?
You really are
You're not being cute
If you could just
It's your attitude
Cute, Cute, Cute!

Eh~
What is it? Leave me alone
Don't call guys cute.
Being called cute
means you're precious
Is this what you really want on your future plans form?

Is it a problem?
It's not that...
It's not that, but...
That's okay
Please,
I'll ask again if necessary
Are you past all that?
Didn't you used to
say you liked
stars and animals?
HE'S A SCIENCE TEACHER
It's okay!
Why not aim for the easier school
with better teachers?
It's all
whatever
Gradually..

Gradually her outline is getting blurry.
Take
my hand
More
All the way to the elbow
Doing this
Feels like hugging, doesn't it?

It will never happen again.
We're going to move on to hugging.
so why is she going on about this?
Holding hands.
Seeing her expression.
Let's go see the snow!!

Memories have
no heat or cold
or sound.

Isn't it just like
being among the cherry blossoms?

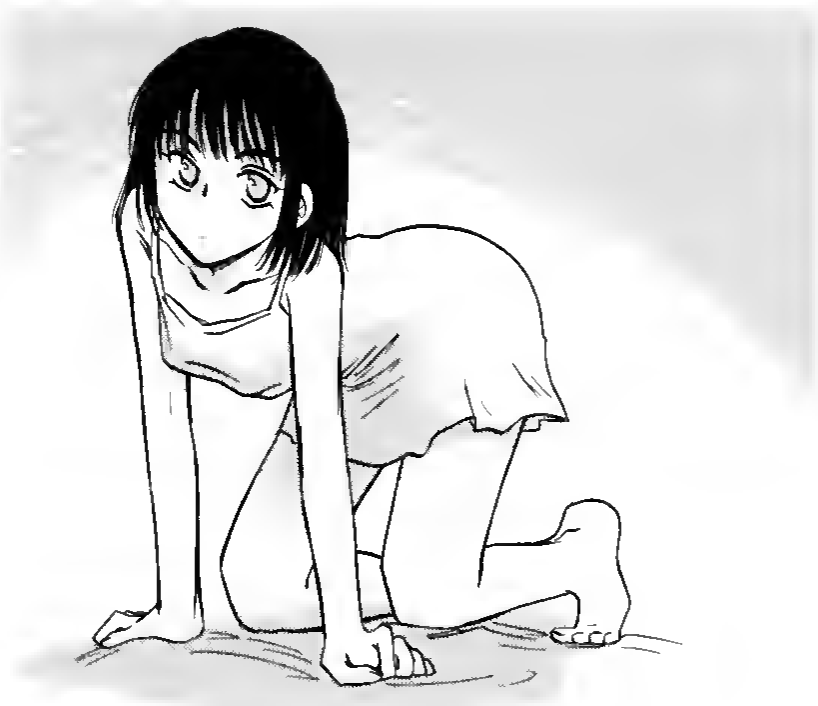
I don't know him.
I-
No,
N-
What is it? You know him?

Yeah, that's it.
Haha
I've lost hope..
But what is it?
I can finally put an end to it.
Or, I'm relieved.
This...
This...

My mind went blank.
happi-ness?
Or,
Lone-liness?
That face..

Troubled.
Pained.
Forced.
It gives me
a tremendous shiver.
I've never experience this.
never again.
No.

The clue-lessness.
It's all blank.
All my Feelings towards her
Goodbye..
The fun.
The happiness. The pain. The impatience.
always ring out in full bloom.



But you know,
Why is it
the thing you most want to hear
from the man you love
is "you're cute".
Isn't it obvious?

# Baby Leaf

Chapter 6

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